Technical Development Fund Scheme

5194. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided funds under the Technical Development Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have been given financial assistance, together with the amount given during the last three years, till date under the above mentioned scheme;

(c) whether Government have been, from time to time, supervising/ checking the progress made by the projects which are covered under the Technical Development Fund Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) In order to promote technological upgradation and mordemisation of Industry, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been operating Technical Development Fund Scheme (TDF) since 1976. The TDF has a loan component of US $ 100 million sanctioned by World Bank.

(b) Under this scheme, no approval has been granted during the last three years.

(c) and (d) For the scheme, central monitoring agency is industrial Development Bank of lndia (IDBI). IDBI monitors the projects and centralises all documentation to lodge claims through Ministry of Finance to the World Bank for reimbursement.

Incentives for Export Under Exim Policy

5195. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether like China, Japan and Korea, Government are paying more attention on exports and consider it as an integral and important part of our economic development;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to ensure that on export-side we must be commercially attractive and on domestic-side our production is of international standard and costs are comparable as is the case with the above mentioned countries; and